THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" (a) Five hundred tons. The entire quantity was received in September 1947.

" (b) Madras City, Trichinopoly and Coimbatore were given 200, 50 and 40 tons respectively, Vizagapatam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Cuddapah, Chittoor, North Arcot, Tanjore, South Kanara and Nilgiris got 20 tons each; and Chingleput, South Arcot and Tinnevelly got 10 tons each.

" (c) Yes."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know why was not other districts given some quota of wheat flour, namely, Bellary, Anantapur, Kurnool and others? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" These are all rationed out according to the scales allotted to each district, and the scales are made out according to the demand in the previous years."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Are the Government not aware that a number of North Indian people reside in Bellary and they require wheat flour? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" It is rationed according to previous calculations made; and such of those demands that are on our register are being satisfied by the quota allotted. Sometimes when we don't get the quota and we don't get imports we are not in a position to distribute wheat flour."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" In order to have a more equitable distribution of wheat flour will the Government send it only to places where there are bakeries instead of compelling the bakeries to close down as was done in Bellary? "

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The trouble is we do not have enough stock, and only when we get quota we give priority to those districts where there is a large demand and it is necessary to meet particular demands."

Alleged refusal to carry Harijan passengers by bus.

* 210 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Prohibition be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Mettupalayam-Coonoor Bus service operating in Coimbatore district refused to carry Harijan passengers;

(b) whether there was a written complaint about this to the Regional Transport Officer, Coimbatore; and

(c) what action has been taken against the bus company?

THE HON. MR. DANIEL THOMAS :—" (a) to (c) In August 1947, a petition was received purporting to be signed by nine scavengers of Ootacamund and alleging that they were refused accommodation in the bus. An enquiry was made on this petition by the Regional Transport Officer, Coimbatore, and he reported that the signatories could not be traced and

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that the allegations also were not true, Government, however, were not satisfied with the report and have forwarded the petition to the Commissioner, Ootacamund, for further enquiry. His report is awaited."

Rickshaws.

*211 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Home Minister be pleased to state—

(a) the number of rickshaws plying for hire in the City of Madras;

(b) the number of private rickshaws in the Madras City;

(c) the number of rickshaws in other municipal towns (town-war);

(d) whether the Government propose to abolish rickshaws; and

(e) if so, what steps have been taken to that end?

THE HON. DR. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" (a) & (b) The number of rickshaws plying for hire in the Madras City is 5,000 and the number of privately owned rickshaws is 700. These figures exclude 1,000 rickshaws which are running in the newly included areas of the City and which have not yet been registered.

" (c)

Name of municipal town and district.	*Number of rickshaws plying for hire.*
North Arcot district—	
Vellore	99
South Arcot district—	
Cuddalore	81
Villupuram	61
Chingleput district—	
Chingleput	2
Conjeeveram	47
Godavari, East district—	
Cocanada	428
Rajahmundry	230
Godavari, West district—	
Ellore	169
Palacole	10
Guntur district—	
Guntur	904
Tenali	167
Kistna district—	
Bezwada	1,075
Bandar	106
Madura district—	
Madura	76